

CLEFT CARE INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO AND ITS EFFICACY IN POSTOPERATIVE CARE

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Background: The Craniofacial Team of Texas Children's Hospital (TCH) cares for numerous patients affected by a facial cleft. Treatment for this facial difference requires several surgeries throughout the patient's lifetime. The first procedure is a primary cleft lip repair. Postoperative care is an essential component for the outcome of the repair. Given its importance, families are often overwhelmed by the process leading to premature discontinuation of care. To assist with this, our team produced a cleft care package that is provided at discharge.

Materials/Methods: Families electing to participate are provided the package at discharge. Packages include: detailed instructions for postoperative care with a link to an instructional video that can be accessed once home and supplies needed to fulfill said care. An advanced practice provider (APP) collects a survey that establishes baseline knowledge the guardian has on how to care for the site prior to instructions. Following this, the APP reviews the surgical site care instructions and provides a demonstration on how to care for the site. Assessment of scar healing, postoperative care compliance, comfortability of care, and family satisfaction is then evaluated at the patient's follow up.

Results: This project has been operational for 3 months. We have had 7 families enroll in this project to date. Initial data collected has shown that when families are given all the resources and tools needed to care for the surgical site that compliance rates and level of comfortability with daily care has improved.

Conclusions: This project is still in its infancy, however, initial response from our families has been overwhelmingly positive. The participating subjects have informed our team that the instructional video and supplies provided made them very feel comfortable with their ability to care for their child's surgical site. In addition, they would recommend the instructional video to future families following cleft lip repair.

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